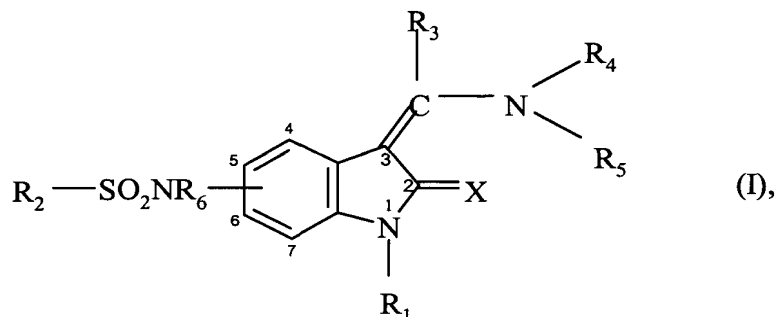


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula I



5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

X is an oxygen or sulphur atom,

R₁ is a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₄-alkoxycarbonyl or C₂₋₄-alkanoyl group,

R₂ is a C₁₋₆-alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms or a
 10 phenyl group or a C₂₋₆-alkenyl group optionally substituted by a phenyl group, wherein
 the phenyl moiety may be substituted in each case by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or
 iodine atom, by a C₁₋₃-alkyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy group,
 a phenyl group which may be mono- or disubstituted by fluorine, chlorine, bromine or
 iodine atoms, by C₁₋₃-alkyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy groups, wherein the substituents may be
 15 identical or different,

a phenyl group substituted by a trifluoromethyl, carboxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl,
 aminocarbonyl, cyano, aminomethyl, nitro or amino group,

a C₄₋₆-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, trimethylphenyl or naphthyl group,

a 5-membered heteroaromatic group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group, which
 20 contains, in the heteroaromatic moiety,

an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group, an oxygen or sulphur atom,

an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group and an oxygen, sulphur or
 nitrogen atom,

an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group and two nitrogen atoms, or

25 an oxygen or sulphur atom and two nitrogen atoms, and to which a phenyl ring may be
 fused via two adjacent carbon atoms,

or is a 6-membered heteroaromatic group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group, which contains one or two heteroatoms in the heteroaromatic moiety and to which a phenyl ring may be fused via two adjacent carbon atoms,

R₃ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₆-alkyl group,

5 a phenyl group optionally substituted by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, C₁₋₃-alkylsulphenyl, C₁₋₃-alkylsulphinyl, C₁₋₃-alkylsulphonyl, phenylsulphenyl, phenylsulphinyl, phenylsulphonyl, nitro, amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkylamino)-C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino group,

10 R₄ is a phenyl or naphthyl group optionally substituted by R₇, which may additionally be substituted by a chlorine or bromine atom or a nitro group, a 5-membered heteroaromatic group which contains an imino group, an oxygen or sulphur atom or an imino group, an oxygen or sulphur atom and one or two nitrogen atoms, or a 6-membered heteroaromatic group which contains one, two or three nitrogen atoms, 15 while the abovementioned 5- and 6-membered heteroaromatic groups may additionally be substituted by a chlorine or bromine atom or by a methyl group or wherein a phenyl ring may be fused to the abovementioned 5- and 6-membered heteroaromatic groups via 2 adjacent carbon atoms, or

R₅ and R₆ in each case independently of one another are hydrogen atoms or C₁₋₃-alkyl groups, and 20

R₇ is a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom or a cyano group, a methoxy group or a C₂₋₃-alkoxy group, which may be substituted in the 2 or 3 position by an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino or 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group, while in each case an alkyl moiety in the abovementioned 25 alkylamino and dialkylamino groups may additionally be substituted by a phenyl group, a trifluoromethyl, nitro, amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino, C₁₋₅-alkylsulphonylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₅-alkylsulphonylamino, phenylsulphonylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylsulphonylamino, aminosulphonyl, C₁₋₃-alkylaminosulphonyl or di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminosulphonyl group, while in each case an alkyl moiety in the abovementioned 30 alkylamino and dialkylamino groups may additionally be substituted by a carboxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, 2-dimethylaminoethylaminocarbonyl or N-methyl-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-

aminocarbonyl group and in each case the alkyl moiety of the abovementioned alkanoylamino or alkylsulphonylamino groups may additionally be substituted by a phenyl, amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino or a 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group,

5 a C₂₋₄-alkylamino group which is terminally substituted in the 2, 3- or 4 position by an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, benzylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-benzylamino, C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino group and wherein additionally the amino-hydrogen atom may be replaced by a C₂₋₅-alkanoyl, benzoyl, C₁₋₅-alkylsulphonyl- or phenylsulphonyl group, while the last-mentioned C₂₋₅-alkanoyl or C₁₋

10 ₅-alkylsulphonyl groups in the alkyl moiety may be substituted by a phenyl group, a carbonyl group which is substituted by a hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, N-(C₁₋₅-alkyl)-C₁₋₃-alkylamino or C₅₋₇-cycloalkyleneimino group; a C₁₋₃-alkyl group which may be substituted by an amino, C₁₋₅-alkylamino, C₅₋₇-cycloalkylamino or phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylamino group which may additionally be

15 substituted at the amino nitrogen atom in each case by a C₁₋₄-alkyl, C₅₋₇-cycloalkyl or C₂₋₄-alkenyl- or C₁₋₄-alkyl group, while the abovementioned C₁₋₄-alkyl substituent in each case may additionally be mono-, di- or trisubstituted by a cyano, carboxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl, C₂₋₄-alkanoyl, pyridyl, imidazolyl, benzo[1,3]dioxol or phenyl group, while the phenyl group may be substituted

20 by fluorine, chlorine or bromine atoms, by methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano or nitro groups and the substituents may be identical or different, or in the 2, 3 or 4 position by a hydroxy group, a C₁₋₃-alkyl group which is substituted by a hydroxy, carboxy, morpholino, thiomorpholino, 1-oxo-thiomorpholino, 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholino, piperazino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-piperazino or N-benzyl-piperazino group, by a 5- to 7-membered

25 cycloalkenyleneimino group or by a 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group, while the abovementioned 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino groups may be substituted by one or two C₁₋₃-alkyl groups, which may in turn be terminally substituted by a hydroxy, amino or C₂₋₄-alkanoylamino group, or by a C₅₋₇-cycloalkyl or phenyl group and by a

30 hydroxy group and in the abovementioned cycloalkyleneimino groups a methylene group adjacent to the nitrogen atom may be replaced by a carbonyl group, a C₁₋₃-alkyl group which is substituted by a 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group, while a phenyl group optionally mono- or disubstituted by fluorine, chlorine or bromine

atoms or by methyl or methoxy groups, wherein the substituents may be identical or different, or an oxazolo, imidazolo, thiazolo, pyridino, pyrazino or pyrimidino group optionally substituted by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, by a methyl, methoxy or amino group is fused to the abovementioned 5- to 7-membered

- 5 cycloalkyleneimino groups via 2 adjacent carbon atoms, while the abovementioned monosubstituted phenyl groups may additionally be substituted by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a methyl, methoxy or nitro group, or is an imidazolyl or 1H-C₁₋₃-alkylimidazolyl group.

10

2. A compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the sulphonylamino group of the formula R₂-SO₂NR₆- is linked to the 5-position of the indolinone group.

- 15 3. A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein:

R₃ is a phenyl group optionally substituted by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, C₁₋₃-alkylsulphenyl, C₁₋₃-alkylsulphinyl, C₁₋₃-alkylsulphonyl, phenylsulphenyl, phenylsulphinyl, phenylsulphonyl, nitro, amino, 20 C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkylamino)-C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino group.

4. A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein:

25

R₂ is a C₁₋₃-alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms or a phenyl group or a C₂₋₄-alkenyl group optionally substituted by a phenyl group, wherein the phenyl moiety in each case may be substituted by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom or by a C₁₋₃-alkyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy group.

30

5. A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein:

X is an oxygen atom,

- R₁ is a hydrogen atom,
- R₂ is a C₁₋₃-alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms or a phenyl group or a C₂₋₄-alkenyl group optionally substituted by a phenyl group; a phenyl group which may be mono- or disubstituted by fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atoms, by C₁₋₃-alkyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy groups, wherein the substituents may be identical or different,
- a phenyl group substituted by a trifluoromethyl, carboxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, cyano, aminomethyl, nitro or amino group,
- a C₄₋₆-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, trimethylphenyl or naphthyl group, or
- a pyridinyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, imidazolyl or 1-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-imidazolyl group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group,
- R₃ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₄-alkyl group, or
- a phenyl group optionally substituted by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, nitro or amino group,
- R₄ is a phenyl group optionally substituted by R₇,
- R₅ and R₆ in each case denote a hydrogen atom, and
- R₇ is a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom,
- a methoxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, N-(phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl or 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneiminocarbonyl group,
- a C₁₋₃-alkyl group which is substituted by a carboxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, N-(phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneiminocarbonyl, amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylamino, N-(phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₃-alkylamino or 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group,
- while the abovementioned 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group may be substituted by one or two C₁₋₃-alkyl groups, which may in turn be terminally substituted by a hydroxy, amino or C₂₋₄-alkanoylamino group, and at the same time in the abovementioned 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino moieties a methylene group in the 2 position may be replaced by a carbonyl group or in the abovementioned 6- and 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino moieties a methylene group in the 4 position may be

replaced by an oxygen atom, by an imino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-imino, N-(phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl)-imino or N-(C₁₋₅-alkoxycarbonyl)-imino group,

an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylamino, C₁₋₅-alkanoylamino, phenyl-C₁₋₄-alkanoylamino, C₁₋₅-alkoxycarbonylamino, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonylamino, C₁₋₅-

5 alkylsulphonylamino, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylsulphonylamino- or phenylsulphonylamino group,

wherein the hydrogen atom of the amino group may be replaced by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group,

while the C₁₋₃-alkyl moiety may be substituted by a carboxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl,

aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenyl-C₁₋₃-

alkylaminocarbonyl, N-(phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, 2-

10 dimethylaminoethylaminocarbonyl, N-methyl-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-aminocarbonyl- or

C₄₋₆-cycoalkylenimnocarbonyl group or from position 2 by an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino,

di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylamino, N-(phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₃-alkylamino,

C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₂₋₅-alkanoylamino, C₁₋₅-alkoxycarbonylamino- or N-

(C₁₋₅-alkoxycarbonyl)-C₁₋₃-alkylamino group.

15

6. A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein:

R₂ is a C₁₋₃-alkyl group optionally substituted by a phenyl group, a C₁₋₃-perfluoroalkyl group or a phenylvinyl group,

20 a phenyl group which may be substituted by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom,

by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, nitro, amino, cyano, cyanomethyl or aminomethyl group,

a C₄₋₆-alkyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, trimethylphenyl or naphthyl group,

a pyridinyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, imidazolyl or 1-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-

imidazolyl group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group,

25 R₃ is a phenyl group optionally substituted by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine

atom, by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, nitro or amino group,

R₄ is a phenyl group which may be substituted by R₇ and additionally by a chlorine atom or a nitro group, while

R₇ is a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom,

30 a methoxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, methoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl,

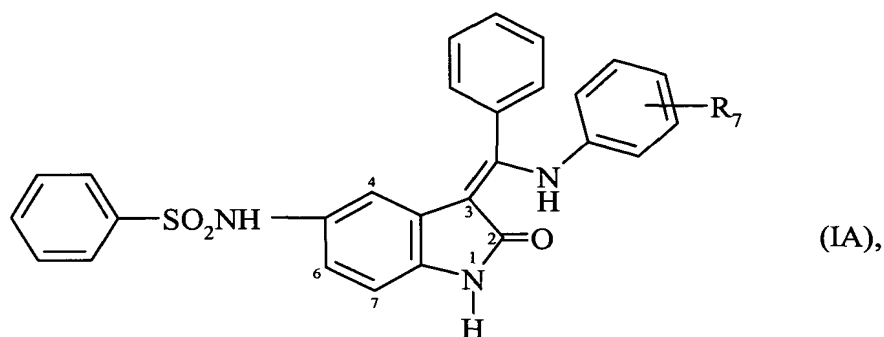
methylaminocarbonyl, dimethylaminocarbonyl, benzylaminocarbonyl, N-benzyl-

methylaminocarbonyl, pyrrolidinocarbonyl or piperidinocarbonyl group,

- a methyl or ethyl group which may be substituted by a carboxy, methoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, methylaminocarbonyl, dimethylaminocarbonyl, benzylaminocarbonyl, N-benzyl-methylaminocarbonyl, pyrrolidinocarbonyl, piperidinocarbonyl, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino, benzylamino, N-benzylmethylamino, C₂₋₄-alkanoylamino, N-methyl-C₂₋₄-alkanoylamino, tert.butyloxycarbonylamino, N-methyl-tert.butyloxycarbonylamino, pyrrolidino, pyrrolidinomethyl, hydroxypyrrolidinomethyl, hydroxymethylpyrrolidinomethyl, piperidino, dimethylpiperidino, 2-oxo-piperidino, piperazino, 4-methyl-piperazino, 4-benzyl-piperazino, 4-tert.butoxycarbonyl-piperazino or morpholino group, or
- an amino, methylamino, ethylamino, C₁₋₃-alkanoylamino, phenylacetylamino, tert.butoxycarbonylamino, C₁₋₄-alkylsulphonylamino, phenyl-methylsulphonylamino or phenylsulphonylamino group, wherein the hydrogen atom of the amino group may be replaced by a methyl or ethyl group, while the methyl or ethyl moiety in each case may be substituted by a carboxy, methoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, methylaminocarbonyl or dimethylaminocarbonyl group or the ethyl moiety may also be substituted from position 2 by an amino, methylamino, dimethylamino, benzylalkylamino, N-benzyl-methylamino, C₂₋₃-alkanoylamino, N-methyl-C₂₋₃-alkanoylamino, tert.butyloxycarbonylamino or N-methyl-tert.butyloxycarbonylamino group.

7. A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein R₄ is a phenyl group substituted in the 4 position by R₇.

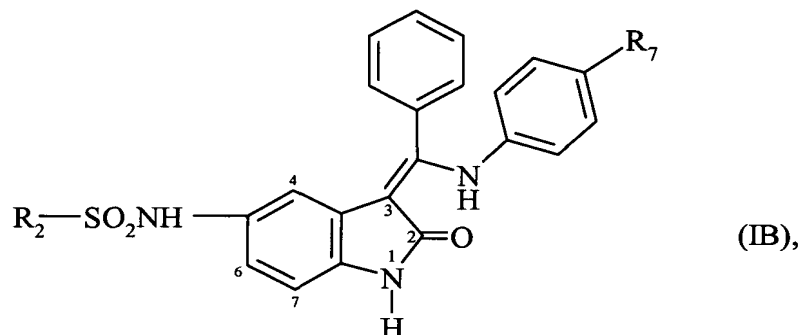
8. A compound of the formula IA



wherein R₇ is defined as in claim 1, 5 or 6.

9. A compound of formula IA according to claim 8 wherein R₇ is selected from the group consisting of:
- hydrogen, (2,6-dimethylpiperidino)-methyl, (N-ethylsulphonyl)-N-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-aminocarbonylmethyl)-amino, N-ethylsulphonyl-N-(N-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-N-methyl-amino-carbonylmethyl)-amino, 2-oxopiperidinomethyl, 4-benzyl-piperazino-methyl, 4-methylpiperazino-methyl, 4-tert.butoxycarbonyl-piperazinomethyl, acetyl-amino, acetylaminomethyl, amino, aminomethyl, benzylaminocarbonyl, benzylaminocarbonyl-methyl, carboxy, carboxymethyl, chlorine, cyano, dimethylaminocarbonyl-methyl-amino, dimethylaminoethyl, dimethylaminomethyl, ethoxycarbonylmethyl, ethylsulphonylamino, formyl-amino, methoxycarbonyl, methylsulphonylamino, morpholinomethyl, N-(2-(N-acetyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-ethylsulphonylamino, N-(2-(N-acetyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-methylsulphonylamino, N-(2-(N-acetyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-propionyl-amino, N-(2-(N-acetyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-ethyl-amino, N-(2-(N-benzyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-propionyl-amino, N-(2-acetyl-amino-ethyl)-N-acetyl-amino, N-(2-acetyl-amino-ethyl)-N-ethylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-acetyl-amino-ethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-acetyl-amino-ethyl)-N-propionyl-amino, N-(2-aminoethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-acetyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-butylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-phenylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-N-propylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-methylamino-ethyl)-acetyl-amino, N-(2-methylamino-ethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-methylamino-ethyl)-propionyl-amino, N-(2-propionyl-amino-ethyl)-N-propionyl-amino, N-(aminocarbonyl-methyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(dimethylamino-carbonylmethyl)-N-(methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(dimethylaminoethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(methylaminocarbonyl-methyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(piperidinomethyl-carbonyl)-N-methyl-amino, N-acetyl-N-(2-(N-benzyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-ethyl-amino, N-acetyl-N-(2-benzyl-oxycarbonylamino-ethyl)-amino, N-carboxymethyl-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-ethylsulphonyl-N-hydroxycarbonylmethyl-amino, N-methyl-N-acetyl-amino, N-methyl-N-ethylsulphonyl-amino, N-methyl-N-formyl-amino, N-methyl-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-methyl-N-propionyl-amino, piperazinomethyl, propionyl-amino, pyrrolidin-1-yl-methyl, 2-hydroxymethylpyrrolidin-1-yl-methyl, 3-hydroxypyrrolidin-1-yl-methyl and tert.butoxycarbonylamino.

10. A compound of formula IB



5 wherein R₂ and R₇ are defined as in claim 1, 4, 5 or 6.

11. A compound of formula IB according to claim 10 wherein:

R₇ is selected from the group consisting of:

- 10 hydrogen, (2,6-dimethylpiperidino)-methyl, (N-ethylsulphonyl)-N-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-aminocarbonylmethyl)-amino, N-ethylsulphonyl-N-(N-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-N-methyl-amino-carbonylmethyl)-amino, 2-oxopiperidinomethyl, 4-benzyl-piperazino-methyl, 4-methylpiperazino-methyl, 4-tert.butoxycarbonyl-piperazinomethyl, acetyl-amino, acetylaminomethyl, amino, aminomethyl,
- 15 benzylaminocarbonyl, benzylaminocarbonyl-methyl, carboxy, carboxymethyl, chlorine, cyano, dimethylaminocarbonyl-methyl-amino, dimethylaminoethyl, dimethylaminomethyl, ethoxycarbonylmethyl, ethylsulphonylamino, formyl-amino, methoxycarbonyl, methylsulphonylamino, morpholinomethyl, N-(2-(N-acetyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-ethylsulphonylamino, N-(2-(N-acetyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-
- 20 methylsulphonylamino, N-(2-(N-acetyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-propionyl-amino, N-(2-(N-acetyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-ethyl-amino, N-(2-(N-benzyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethyl)-propionyl-amino, N-(2-acetyl-amino-ethyl)-N-acetyl-amino, N-(2-acetyl-amino-ethyl)-N-ethylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-acetyl-amino-ethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-acetyl-amino-ethyl)-N-propionyl-amino, N-(2-aminoethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-
- 25 (2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-acetyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-butylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-phenylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-N-propylsulphonyl-amino,

N-(2-methylamino-ethyl)-acetylamino, N-(2-methylamino-ethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(2-methylamino-ethyl)-propionylamino, N-(2-propionylamino-ethyl)-N-propionyl-amino, N-(aminocarbonyl-methyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(dimethylamino-carbonylmethyl)-N-(methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(dimethylaminoethyl)-
5 N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(methylaminocarbonyl-methyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-(piperidinomethyl-carbonyl)-N-methyl-amino, N-acetyl-N-(2-(N-benzyl-N-methyl-amino)-ethylamino, N-acetyl-N-(2-benzyl-oxycarbonylamino-ethyl)-amino, N-carboxymethyl-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-ethylsulphonyl-N-hydroxycarbonylmethyl-amino, N-methyl-N-acetyl-amino, N-methyl-N-ethylsulphonyl-
10 amino, N-methyl-N-formyl-amino, N-methyl-N-methylsulphonyl-amino, N-methyl-N-propionyl-amino, piperazinomethyl, propionylamino, pyrrolidin-1-yl-methyl, 2-hydroxymethylpyrrolidin-1-yl-methyl, 3-hydroxypyrrolidin-1-yl-methyl and tert.butoxycarbonylamino; and

15 R₂ is selected from the group consisting of:

1-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl, 2-aminophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 2-cyanophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 2-phenylethene, 3-aminomethylphenyl, 3-aminophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 3-methylphenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-aminophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, benzyl, quinolin-8-yl,
20 cyclopropyl, ethyl, isopropyl, methyl, naphthalin-1-yl, naphthalin-2-yl, propyl, pyrid-2-yl, pyrid-3-yl, 3,5-dimethyl-isoxazol-4-yl and 2,4,6-trimethylphenyl.

12. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

25

(Z)-3-{1-[4-(N-(2-aminoethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(N-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-N-phenylsulphonyl-amino)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
30 (Z)-3-{1-[4-(4-methylpiperazinomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,

- (Z)-3-{1-[4-(N-methyl-N-acetyl-amino)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-(1-phenylamino-1-phenyl-methylidene)-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-[1-(4-chlorophenylamino)-1-phenyl-methylidene]-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-
5 indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(N-(2-propionylamino-ethyl)-N-propionyl-amino)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-[1-(4-dimethylaminomethyl-phenylamino)-1-phenyl-methylidene]-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indole,
10 (Z)-3-[1-(4-(N-methyl-N-methylsulphonyl-amino)-phenylamino)-1-phenyl-methylidene]-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-[1-(4-(N-methyl-N-piperidinomethylcarbonyl-amino)-phenylamino)-1-phenyl-methylidene]-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-
15 benzylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-((2,6-dimethylpiperidino)-methyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-(3-nitrophenylsulphonylamino)-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-dimethylaminomethyl-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-ethylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
20 (Z)-3-{1-[4-(N-benzyl-N-methyl-aminomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-ethylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-ethylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-(pyridin-3-
25 ylsulphonylamino)-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-(pyridin-3-ylsulphonylamino)-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-[1-(4-piperidinomethyl-phenylamino)-1-phenyl-methylidene]-5-methylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone (Z)-3-{1-[4-(piperidinomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-
30 phenyl-methylidene}-5-ethylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(piperidinomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-isopropylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,

- (Z)-3-{1-[4-(piperidinomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-(naphthalin-1-ylsulphonylamino)-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(piperidinomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-(3-nitrophenylsulphonylamino)-2-indolinone,
5 (Z)-3-{1-[4-(piperidinomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-(3,5-dimethylisoxazol-4-ylsulphonylamino)-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(piperidinomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-cyclopropylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(piperidinomethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-(pyridin-3-ylphenylsulphonylamino)-2-indolinone,
10 (Z)-3-{1-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-cyclopropylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-propylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
15 (Z)-3-{1-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-ethylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-methylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-{1-[4-(benzylaminocarbonyl)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
20 (Z)-3-{1-[4-(N-dimethylaminocarbonylmethyl-N-acetyl-amino)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-phenylsulphonylamino-2-indolinone,
(Z)-3-[1-(4-piperidinomethyl-phenylamino)-1-phenyl-methylidene]-5-(4-aminophenylsulphonylamino)-2-indolinone, and
25 (Z)-3-{1-[4-(N-(2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-N-methylsulphonyl-amino)-phenylamino]-1-phenyl-methylidene}-5-(N-methyl-N-phenylsulphonyl-amino)-2-indolinone,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 30 13. A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a compound according to claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. A method for treating a disease characterised by excessive or abnormal cell proliferation which comprises administering a therapeutic amount of a compound according to claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12.